SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI
MAGAZINE

Inaugural *issue*

JUNE 2020

SNU@9 | SNU Newsflash | Alumni Stories | Events@SNU | Alumni Meetups

From the Alumni Relations desk...

My Dear Alumni,

Work on the Inaugural Edition of this Magazine had begun many months prior to when we first heard of words and terms like COVID-19, and Social distancing. Since then, many aspects of our lives have been challenged, the pandemic has impacted each of us in myriad ways.
In these testing times, I know many of you are staying alone, far away from family, managing work and personal lives, studying and developing new essential skills, working longer hours while staying indoors and keeping everyone safe. Despite the challenges, many are going out of their way to ensure someone somewhere is safer and happier because of the actions you take, small or big. Over the last few days, many of you have reached out to me and shared your lockdown stories and they are absolutely wonderful and uplifting. You are always in our thoughts wherever in the world you may be, and you make us proud with the way you conduct yourself. We are thinking of you, and wishing you to be Safe and Happy.

I am sure you would be delighted to receive news of your Alma Mater through this first edition of the Alumni Magazine being brought to you by our Alumni Relations Team and a fantastic group of student volunteers. Also, reading the stories of the First Batch will make you smile and reminisce about your days at SNU as we continue to track your success.

**Stay Safe, Stay Happy and Enjoy reading
this very first edition of the Alumni Magazine**

**Regards,
Anubha Bali**
Director ,Career Development Center and Alumni Relations Office
Shiv Nadar University

As SNU prepares for its 10th Year Celebrations starting August 2020 and what could be a better way to commemorate than to celebrate the Founding Batch of the University through the first edition of the SNU Alumni Magazine. Reminiscing the journey at SNU, I recall with vivid detail, our first batch in 2011, starry eyed students from across the country coming together as strangers, and settled in making lifelong friendships, and in the process became forever bonded to SNU as our proud Alumni. From the first batch graduating and leaving the Campus, SNU Alumni have been steadily growing every year, taking their place under the sun. From leading their own companies, to leading their teams, from development work, to scaling the corporate ladder, to owning their design studios, to doing cutting edge research in their chosen areas... SNU alumni are truly global in their reach and continue to make all of us proud.

Over the years SNU Campus has transformed and grown, as have you. This inaugural feature includes several exciting high- lights about your journey, as well the journey of the university. Peppered with lots of stories of your personal journeys, of mile- stones you have achieved, to fun facts about the University, which I am sure you will love reading about. For those of you who did not have the opportunity to visit Campus after graduation or attend the recent alumni events, you can catch up on some of the events here. Do stay in touch with each other, and most importantly with your University through the Alumni Relations Office.

Do share your stories with us regularly and share lots of pictures ! As our Alumni Community grows, we hope to make it an interactive, vibrant and dynamic entity though your support. Today, our Alumni have crossed the 2000+ mark, and as we continue to grow together, it is indeed our privilege to keep engaged with all of you and enrich ourselves from the experiences of each other. We sincerely hope that the SNU Alumni network will contribute in a small but significant way, to help you stay connected with your fellow Alumni, provide you with valuable insights, while helping you stay connected and networked, as you pursue your professional objectives.

Wishing all of you, a bright and successful career ahead !

**Director,
Career Development Center
and Alumni Relations Office**

In this issue

Disclaimer : *The information mentioned in this magazine is according to the data collected until June 2020*

Contributors

"We appreciate the Management Team, the Faculty members, and the Student Coordinators for their valuable inputs and contribution towards this magazine.

We would specially like to thank our alumni for sharing stories, photos and being a part of the process of creating this magazine also by giving feedback time and again."

Conceptualization: - Anubha Bali

Editorial Team: - Shweta Tayal,
Kritika Vij,
Neha Trehan ,
Paulami Ghosh

Disclaimer: The stories and the photographs have been collected by the respective alumni. We have taken necessary precautions to ensure the correctness of the data.

An Institution of Eminence

After a rigorous selection process, the government of India has announced Shiv Nadar University as an Institution of Eminence, one of ten institutions from the private sector to be so honoured. This is in recognition of the underlying vision, the substantial investments, the creation of an ecosystem of discovery, the quality of faculty, and the innovative approach to curriculum. Shiv Nadar University now has significant freedom in navigating its academic course, and the responsibility of being one of the flagbearers of Indian higher education on the global stage.

On the recommendation of the Empowered Expert Committee (EEC), the Ministry of Human Resource Development issued a Letter of Intent (LoI) to Shiv Nadar University for Institution of Eminence (IoE) status on October 3, 2019. An expert committee headed by Prof. Pritam Singh, member, EEC visited the University on March 5-6, 2020. The IoE MoU is likely to be signed soon.

SNU@9

Stalin Pandian is BACK

Foosball!

Indoor Sports!

New vehicles!

Student data usage limit raised to 14 GB per week from 3 GB

Biometric attendance for students began in 2019

NAVIN TEA HOUSE

Anna'sCafe

New on Campus

Chess!

49 PROGRAMS

155 LABS & STUDIOS

2100 STUDENTS

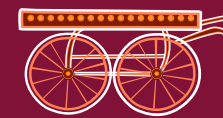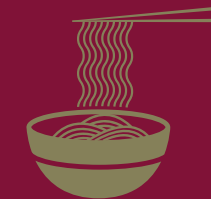**$28 MILLION INTERNAL RESEARCH INVESTMENT**

68%
Students who have to sprint to reach 9 AM class

672
Average plates of Maggi consumed per day

74%
Students using thela for luggage

36
Number of late night entry requests made to guard bhaiyya per day

22
Number of students trying to book simultaneously when someone releases an Uber at the gate.

New Programs

School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SoHSS)
- Master's in Design (M.Des)
- Master's in Water Science and Policy (WSP)
- Bachelor's in International Relations and Governance Studies (IRGS)

School of Management and Entrepreneurship (SoME)
- Bachelor's in Management Studies (BMS)

School of Natural Sciences (SoNS)
- Integrated Programs
  - Integrated B.Sc.-M.Sc. (Research) in Chemistry
  - Integrated B.Sc.-M.Sc.-Ph.D. in Chemistry
  - Integrated M.Sc.-Ph.D. in Chemistry
- M.Sc. (Research) in Chemistry

Centre for Economics, Mathematics & Data Analytics
{In Collaboration with Department of Economics (SoHSS) & Department of Finance, Accounting & Control (SoME)}

- BSc (Research) in Economics & Finance

New Clubs

Collaborative Design for Sustainability (CoDes)
It is a student-led society that intends to bring together students from different departments to collaborate on developing sustainable solutions.

Student Energy
Student Energy club's mission is to boost the energy transition from fossils to renewable sources.

Artificial Intelligence
First Research Focused Club of SNU, and its aim is to promote AI research at the undergraduate level.

Developer Student Club
The Developer Student Club brings together the passion for coding and creativity while promoting collaboration among the skilled and talented students on the campus.

WULA
"What You laughing At "-is the Comedy club, which focuses on both stand-up and improv. The club provides a platform for students with a funny bone, to hone their skills.

VEIG
The society goes to the depth of knowledge through various aspects of Game development, by providing a collaborative framework of engagement with various stakeholders.

Design Club
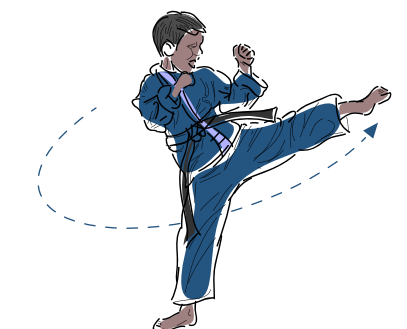The Design Club serves to spread design skills and knowledge on campus, serving as a a creative platform for graphic designers, animators, digital artists, and product designers.

Nature Sentinels
Nature Sentinels works with the purpose of fostering and engaging an environmentally conscious student community.

Dauntless
The martial arts club with special emphasis on practicing various Self Defense techniques.

New Sports Action

Shiv Nadar University Sports League

Since its inception, SNUSL has become an integral part of the sports program, with activities spread throughout the academic year. SNUSL was introduced in 2013 and it has helped build a culture of sports and seen increasing participation over the years. Last year, the number of teams were restructured under four brand new names - Falcons, Phoenix, Bulls and Panthers. Athletics and Powerlifting. The first edition of the revamped SNUSL was won by Team Phoenix by a razor thin margin, beating out the Bulls.
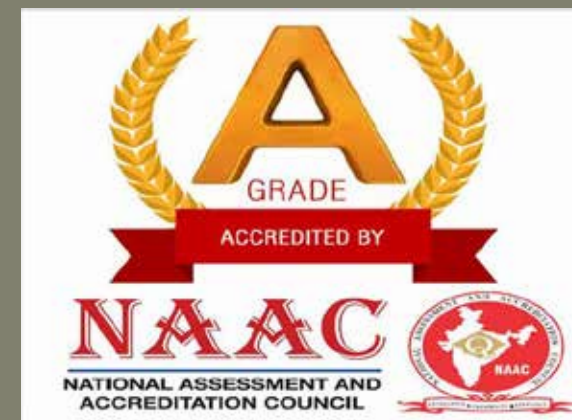
Sports News

Our competitive teams performed exceptionally during Breeze 2020 in which our students competed against 35 university teams. SNU teams were crowned overall champions in sports, beating SRM University in Boys' Cricket, Sharda University in Boys' Football, and finishing a close second in several other events.

SNU Newsflash

▶ AIC

Shiv Nadar University is proud to be a part of the Atal Incubation Mission, with a vision of promoting Entrepreneurship. The aim of the School of Management and Entrepreneurship is to serve as an active catalyst in the development of promising entrepreneurs. Qualified mentors guide these start ups in their technical and business endeavors. The aim of AIC is to create an ecosystem which is conducive for innovation, where start-ups and new ventures thrive.

▶ SNU Ranked 52nd in the 'University' Category: NIRF Rankings

Based on the NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework) Ranking, Shiv Nadar University is ranked at #52 in the 'university' category; and #77 in the 'Overall' category in 2019. This year, the institutions were ranked keeping in mind five parameters: Teaching, Learning & Resources; Research and Professional Practice; Graduation Outcomes; Outreach and Inclusivity; and Perception.

▶ Library Award

The heart of Shiv Nadar University's campus - the Central Library - has been awarded the best 'Aspiring Young Academic Library (Non-Government)' award at the WILEY Library Awards 2019! The award was bestowed for the library's many subscriptions and its high usage. A big thank you to Shiv Nadar University's management, research and faculty for their support!

A chat with the Vice Chancellor

Professor Rupamanjari Ghosh

▶ **How does it feel to be an Institution of Eminence? What do you think contributed to this?**

This tag is hard earned, and we are honoured and excited... Our original plan had this ambition of 'eminence' anyway, and when the government launched the scheme, our bid for the *"Institution of Eminence"* tag was just a *credible projection* of where we had reached already in this short span of our existence. It feels good to be recognized for our efforts... It is a collective dream, and we have a long way to go...

▶ **Do you remember the first day you came to Shiv Nadar University? What was your first impression?**

Yes, I do... The journey to the University campus was striking -- I could see abundant natural wealth of the area, and there were also visible signs of the pressures of development or economic growth, increasing population and growing consumerism, taking a rapid toll on the health of this rich environment. From the very first day, I started searching for an answer as to what was really 'worth' conserving in the face of these pressures... A proper scientific documentation of the local biodiversity had to be done, which would then help formulate a much-needed strategy for conservation. The book on **'Illustrated Flora: Part of Western Uttar Pradesh and Delhi NCR, India'** that came out after years of systematic hard work by the SNU team led by Prof. Jyoti Kumar Sharma, is the result of that first impression. More such documentations are on the way...

▶ **Tell us a little bit about your journey at Shiv Nadar University so far.**

SNU turned eight last August (2019)... My role as the Vice-Chancellor in the last four years has in many ways been a continuation of the initiatives I had started earlier as the first Dean of Research & Graduate Studies of the new University and also the Founding Director of the School of Natural Sciences. It has no doubt been a very challenging journey... and the challenge has been my attraction!

There are, in general, two kinds of strategies for operation and growth – we started necessarily with a **vision-oriented top-down** approach. As the University community started growing, we moved to an **inclusive, organic, bottom-up** approach, which is stable. We have both kinds in operation now. The University has some relatively short-term visions, in line with the issues of today's world, and there are some long-term targets, with in-built flexibility, for times to come.

We have reached a few milestones already. The **UGC Inspection Report** on the University in 2016 was exceptionally encouraging, and the detailed testimony covered all the aspects of functioning of the University. SNU is among a select group of green-field institutions in the country which were awarded the prestigious **Atal Incubation Centre** grant by the Niti Aayog, Government of India, in the very first round in 2017. In the **National Institutional Ranking Framework** (NIRF) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, SNU has been the youngest institution in the 'top 100' Overall list in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, and its NIRF score has been rising steadily. In NIRF-2019, SNU ranked 52 in the 'University' category. The University has been accredited with **Grade 'A'** by **NAAC** (National Assessment and Accreditation Council), valid till November 2024. You already mentioned the **'Institution of Eminence'** tag...

▶ **Where do you see the University five years from now?**

The growth of the University is not in terms of numbers, but it is essentially about quality and intellectual strength. Research and innovation are in our DNA... Our Founder, one of India's most successful entrepreneurs, has had a singular vision: "Truly world-class educational institutions must be developed in India; they must foster and develop cutting-edge research, and in turn, drive innovation and advancement in multiple sectors." With the support we have from the SN Foundation, we cannot afford to fail in our mission, and we must deliver the dream.

SNU is a multidisciplinary, research-focused university – covering Sciences to Engineering to Management to Social Sciences, and can thus address the entire spectrum of research and innovation challenges from a single campus. But the future belongs to a collaborative system. We need to create an ecosystem of strong, equitable and credible partnerships – national & international, academic & industrial, public & private. I believe that universities like SNU should drive this ecosystem, and very importantly, be the quality controllers. In the next five to ten years, we should be able to set our University in this role... Who knows how soon we will set out to keep parking slots reserved for *Nobel Laureates* on campus!

▶ **This University emphasizes the multidisciplinary approach. What makes it so important?**

A holistic approach to education is the need of the hour. Real problems on the ground demand real solutions, and need tools and concepts from multiple disciplines. A broad-base education therefore helps. Our multidisciplinary character allows strengthening of the learner's foundation or core with a breadth of knowledge, while we provide depth of learning in a Major (and/or a Minor) subject. There is flexibility in the curriculum by design.

We are offering an integrated 'STEAM' education (a combination of STEM, and Art & Design). STEAM is the future of 'liberal arts' education, poised to transform the economy of the 21st Century, just as science and technology did in the last Century. The pursuit of Liberal Studies allows a student to follow liberal pursuits, free of boundaries, and aims at breaking the mould of education in silos that still governs the education system in the country. A 'liberal studies' program trains the mind – how to think, and not just a prescriptive 'what to think'-- a true 'skill' that will never get outdated...and is/will be needed for a number of high-end jobs. Such an education will enable the learners to become global citizens as they will be able to adapt anywhere in any field, and be equipped to unlearn and relearn, as necessary. Do note that our multidisciplinary or interdisciplinarity is *not* at the cost of disciplinarily...

▶ Are there any research projects going on right now that you are excited about? Which ones?

There are quite a few... some reports are coming out in the media, e.g., on the self-cleaning 'green' paint, the plastic-eating bacteria, the security ink... We have started a few interdisciplinary Centres, and chosen a couple of impactful research areas -- please wait for the results.

I am also very excited about our flagship **'Opportunities for Undergraduate Research (OUR)'** projects in which an undergraduate student can work on a research problem under the mentorship of a faculty member from any Department across the University -- this is a differentiator!

▶ Which is your favourite spot on campus?

The (natural) lake... but it faces steep competition from my office in Block-C!

▶ What's your philosophy towards life?

Life is short -- if something is worth doing, it's worth doing well!

While you move towards your goal, the path is also very important -- the path you follow to reach your destination. I wish to have the awareness and strength to do 'the right thing' always. Doing the right thing is not always the most convenient thing, but that's the only way forward.

If you are lucky to find your passion, you are likely to excel in it. I am a product of a generation where we have "made it" in spite of the system and not because of the system. I wanted to change this for the next generation... I am an optimist and that keeps me going.

▶ What advice would you give the students of the university?

Our alumni are doing well, and it gives me confidence in the path we have taken so far. I will thus urge my students to cultivate the skills of critical thinking, creative problem-solving, clear communication, and rational decision making, while they are at the University pursuing whatever subjects... You need to be a life-long learner, with collaboration skills. Do not be afraid of uncharted territories or of failures. Your actions may *"inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more."*

Alumni
Stories

▶ "I finally built a house for my parents and fulfilled their dream."

Lokesh
Software Development
Engineer, Amazon

His love for Machine Learning has taken him to the new heights. After joining Amazon, Lokesh spent his first two years in India working in the area of financial technology. When he started his career, he had two clear-cut objectives in mind, first to work outside India, and second to do something in the field of Machine Learning. After working diligently in Amazon, he got an opportunity to shift to Seattle. Now, he is a part of the prestigious core team of Alexa.

Working on Alexa is not just a standard software programming job, it is a job where Lokesh faces multiple challenges. Language and voice recognition play a big role, and so do an understanding of accents and dialects. But the most important challenge is understanding the customer. Context recognition is the key. "When someone says, 'Alexa, call my mom', Alexa has to understand that this is not a common mom, but that person's mom. This is the kind of problem we have to solve," says Lokesh.

With growing competition between Google home and Alexa, his team is constantly under intense pressure. "One mistake and you fall behind," says Lokesh. Nevertheless, the focus of his team is not on Google – it is on understanding and anticipating the needs of the customer. Amazon believes that this would automatically keep them ahead.

What Lokesh enjoys most about his job is the quality of people he is surrounded by. "I'm exposed to some of the brightest minds from places like Harvard and MIT on a regular basis," he says, "That's a real high." He has no plans to move from this job in the foreseeable future.

Even though he feels accomplished, Lokesh knows that there are still many milestones that needs to be achieved in the field of Machine Learning.

He feels that interacting with the brightest minds and working with them on a variety of projects gives him a chance to embark on many new journeys. In his personal life, he is happy that he has been able to accomplish one of his duties as a son; he bought his parents a beautiful home.

He still fondly remembers the moments he spent on campus with his friends and faculty, his assignments, every new thing he learnt from his projects. He believes that every failure he faced in SNU helped him trigger his interest in Machine Learning, and today he is the best in his team, humble, happy and content.

▶ **"I'm trying to bring arts to the forefront of everything we do."**

Niharika
Faculty of Performing Arts,
Shiv Nadar School

'Follow your passion and you will always be the happiest' is the motto of our next Alumni, Niharika Kasturi who has decided to live her life on her terms and do what she loves the most. Although she had a good experience working in Cognizant, it was not the most thrilling experience for her.

Against all odds, she decided to pursue her interest in dancing and break the stereotype, and chose to take a leap that many would not dare to, and did her masters in Dance Research from University of Chichester in UK.

One of the things that caught her attention was how dance was written and talked about. She wanted to learn more. She came back to India because she felt there was much work to be done in the field of dance. She is currently working at Shiv Nadar School as a Faculty of Performing Arts and teaching dance to young budding students.

What does the future hold for her? She has several goals. She wants to help introduce the Pedagogy of Dance to the Indian practitioners and representatives. While her work also allowed her to read extensively on the work in the west, her work continues to be based around dance in India.

Apart from dancing, Niharika is an ardent reader and loves to share her opinions through different blogs. She believes that the world can be a better place by making a bit of an effort.

She has represented India at Dance Explosion, a multicultural dance event in the UK, where she also conducted two workshops. "I discovered my true self and my soul's resonance in the passion and pursuit of dance" she says. She wants to make an impact by taking the immense potential within our country, far and beyond.

▶ **"We grew up like family. I'm glad that's extending afterwards."**

Prahlad
Sports Entrepreneur.
Founder, Tiki Taka.

Nowadays when everyone is striving to achieve heights in different technological domains after graduation, we have someone who believes in following their dreams and passion. Our next alumnus is a passionate sports enthusiast. He is founder of a company which is based on what he believes, and this is shaped by his alma mater.

While he was studying at Shiv Nadar University, he did not have the facilities that are available at ISC today, but he developed a passion for sports. During his 4 years at SNU, he witnessed how a sports ground was built, and that built the base for Tiki Taka, a business building football pitches

and other sports facilities, in and around Chennai. He is trying to build a culture of sports in his home state.

"My background at the university gave me the knowledge I needed," he says. "A lot of the work I did there was in sports. I helped set up the SNU Sports League. It gave me the experience I needed. Everything I do now is a direct result of the communities I helped build in college. I just added some business sense and built a start up."

He loved attending the recent alumni event in Chennai. "It was more of a casual, family affair, rather than a formal corporate one," he says. "It was a breath of fresh air."

▶ **"I was part of an experimental batch, fortunately for me it turned out really well."**

Dinesh
Service Information
Engineer, Caterpillar

Dinesh works for Caterpillar, serving as the interface between the customer and R&D. In addition to his successful career in research, he also finds time to freelance as a photographer, designer and film maker. He ensures to have the right balance between work as well as pursuing his hobbies.

Dinesh was reluctant in the beginning to step out and face the world because he was an introvert; but his father's encouragement helped him and he actually faced the world - far away from home.

"It was not only engineering that I learnt at Shiv Nadar University," he says. It was a time of personal development for him. As a member of the founding batch, he helped do everything from scratch. He and his batch mate Sharan started the Photography Club, which continues to flourish today.

He created some of the first teaser videos for the first edition of Breeze. Encouragement from many others around him motivated him to continue working in this area.

"I have such great memories," he says. "Like how astonished we were when we first saw the new library, eating dinner outdoors in winter and getting caught bursting crackers by the guard!"

▶ "My goal is to become a faculty and an entrepreneur in the field of Bio-engineering."

Ketan
Research Specialist,
University of Illinois at
Urbana Champaign

Ketan's career so far is a model of foresight and planning. He recognized the potential of the multidisciplinary approach. Along with a Major in Electrical, Electronics and Communications Engineering, he chose to pursue a minor in Bio-Technology. He learned techniques such as thermal evaporation, profilometry and scanning electron microscopy, and began working on assessing device performance.

"After Shiv Nadar University, I completed my Master's degree in Bioinstrumentation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA," he says. During this period,

he assisted in the development of a micro fluidic point-of-care device for early detection of sepsis, and honed his skills in areas such as micro-fabrication.

He established a correlation between CD-64 expression and % cell captured for sepsis diagnosis and gained practical experience in fabricating counting-channels bonded with micro-fabricated platinum electrodes

In 2018, he was a part of a team of researchers which developed a rapid sensing gel to measure a molecular marker in a teardrop, and published a paper on the subject. As a Research Specialist at the University of Illinois, he and his team are now exploring how this new device can be used in real life by healthcare providers.

▶ "Where I am today stems directly from my experiences at Shiv Nadar University."

Kirithigaa
MBA student, Kellogg School of Management

She is the founding student council president and co-president of debating and Model United Nations club.

Kirithigaa was born and raised in a family that has a Navy background, growing up in a series of coastal cities across India. Joining Shiv Nadar University was a leap of faith. she was inspired by the vision of SNU. "I loved the idea of trying to create the equivalent of an Ivy League college in India." It introduced her to students from across the country, with very different approaches and perspectives. "I realized that people in the defense community may come from different backgrounds, but their thinking becomes very similar. Here, I was exposed to many other thought processes."

She remembers how the founding batch set up clubs, established guidelines for the Students' Council, and had to figure out basic things like how to conduct a marathon. Post her graduation,

she worked with Central Square Foundation as a program manager where she spearheaded a diagnostic analysis of Bihar's education system to create a roadmap for large-scale reform. After which, she worked in Barclays, an investment bank for two years as a financial analyst where she analyzed and assessed figures in the daily Profit and Loss statement for risk and market trends as well as Bonds product performance.

She was recently admitted to Kellogg School of Management with a scholarship based on overall achievement, demonstrated leadership and academic abilities.

What would she tell the parents based on her experiences so far? "Education will help your child make sense of the world," she says.

▶ "My journey since I graduated in 2015 has been phenomenal."

Nitin
Senior Engineer, Emerson Automation Solutions

"You should always stick to your roots" is the motto of our next alumni. Since his graduation in Electrical Engineering, Nitin has spent the last four years at Emerson Automation Solutions, a Fortune 500 company based in the USA,

and a global leader in industrial IoT. He joined as a Graduate Engineer Trainee. He is grateful to his professors Dinkar Prasad and Amit Bakshi for helping him with internships and guiding him towards his current career.

He is an active alumnus, and has returned to the campus to be a part of the Alumni Talk series. "After that session, I have received as many as 12 to 15 e-mails from my juniors regarding career planning in the automation industry," he says.

"I feel that if I were to be able to guide a single student of Shiv Nadar University,

it would be a proud moment and a personal achievement." He believes in helping others and passing on the knowledge.

He intends to return to SNU. "Eventually, I want to teach a course on automation to the Electrical and Electronics students at the university," he says. "That's definitely one item on my wish list."

"The scale at which Google operates fascinates me every day."

Sankar
Financial Analyst, Google

Our next alumnus pursued a bachelor's degree in Electrical engineering but was always interested in finance and analytics. Within a month of leaving Shiv Nadar University, Sankar Muthuswamy was in North Carolina, doing Management Studies at Duke University. After graduating, he moved to the Bay Area, to look for a job, and quickly found one. He was recruited by a startup promoted by Target, a leading American Retailer.

He joined as a financial data analyst, but he was soon promoted and given global responsibilities. He recently changed his job and joined Google. He now forecasts advertising revenues across different markets. He has to consider difficult questions like how will Brexit affect the UK? He is an experienced Finance and Analytics professional with a demonstrated history of working in Retail and Internet industry. His plan is to stay at Google, and explore many opportunities that the renowned company offers.

He gives credit to the university for providing him many opportunities to become a better leader. He was a founder of the Model United Nations society, and helped to organize the first edition of Breeze. He makes efforts to stay in touch. "Just the other day I said hello to a faculty member who was down here on a Fulbright Scholarship," he says. "It was lovely."

"Thanks to Shiv Nadar University, I never step back from hiccups and roadblocks."

Bhavini
Deputy Manager – Planning, Shapoorji Pallonji Company

Bhavini is a key member of the planning team at one of India's premier construction companies, based at the Regional Office in Delhi. She works in Shapoorji Pallonji group as a deputy manager in planning. She is highly skilled in preparing Project Budgets and Project Schedules along with its tracking and monitoring.

Through her involvement in a variety of mega projects, she is helping to reshape the landscape of India. At any point in time, she is monitoring 10 to 15 construction projects across the country, addressing issues and acting as an interface with higher management.

Her experience as a founding batch member has helped her to develop leadership skills which helped her professionally. She has been fast tracked by her company and is now part of the Accelerated Leadership Development Program. She has been promoted twice, and sent for workshops to IIT Madras and IIT Delhi.

Today, she has the confidence of a person who gets things done. One of her most exciting assignments so far was being a part of the core group involved in the construction of the Passenger Terminal Building for the Kartarpur Corridor Project. It was a project of national importance which was completed in just 5 months.

"The leadership opportunities my professors gave me have helped me a lot."

Rupakshi
Pricing Lead, Digital Room

During her post graduate studies at Arizona State University, Rupakshi learned how to turn a depressing event into an opportunity. Once, on the way home from her mid-term exams, she was mugged at gunpoint.

The incident left her temporarily traumatised. But she bounced back, and during the next semester's project work, she contacted one of the detectives who had handled her case. She and her group ended up doing a 5-month project with the Head of Analytics of the local police – becoming the only project group in her class to get an actual client.

Within a year of getting her current job at Digital Room, she has two analysts reporting to her. During her earlier two-year stint at American Airlines, she played an active role in interviewing and hiring fresh graduates. She credits her rapid development as a leader to on-campus jobs at Shiv Nadar University,

and the leadership opportunities her professors gave her. In fact, the quality of faculty was the main reason why she left DU after 15 days to join SNU.

Of the things she enjoyed while she was here, she misses the night life the most, especially the aloo parathas at 2 AM. "I loved being in a place where I felt completely safe walking around at midnight, and maybe even waiting to watch the sun rise!"

▶ "I see us becoming a key enabler in the transition to smart transportation."

Rakesh
Founder and CEO, WhistleDrive

Rakesh Munnanooru was bitten by the entrepreneurship bug at Shiv Nadar University, and explored a variety of ideas before arriving at the idea behind WhistleDrive.

He observed that location tracking technology was behind the success of a wide variety of companies. To the shock of his parents, he rejected offers from three top universities for post graduate studies to start his own venture. His efforts started small, facilitating valet parking at restaurants.

In the process, he interacted with several companies providing such services, and realised that the driver segment was completely disorganised. This led to a successful On Demand Driver Service in Hyderabad. They then piloted their software with one company to help their employees to get transport. That was when Rakesh realised that there was a massive opportunity in the B2B space, in contrast to B2C plays such as Uber.

After a thorough analysis of pain points, Whistledrive evolved into a transportation technology company that offers end-to-end employee transportation solutions, using AI driven analytics. Employees across 27 companies in Hyderabad now enjoy quicker, safer, more efficient service. Series-A funding has been achieved, to the tune of Rs 72 crores. His team has 122 members, and growing. The next steps? Chennai, Bengaluru and Vizag.

▶ "My dream is to get a PhD degree before I get too old!"

Sundara Rajan
Senior Software Developer,
Siemens Healthineers

Sundara Rajan C works in Bangalore, as a Senior Software Developer at the healthcare division of Siemens AG, and is extremely happy with the way his career is shaping up. Siemens Healthcare, recently re-branded as Siemens Healthineers, is a titan of German industry, and a global leader in healthcare, with over 45,000 employees worldwide. "I have so much to share," he says, "But the most prestigious development has been my selection as one the

best employees worldwide. I am part of a select group of just 60 people." While he is currently focused on corporate success, he has ambitions of earning a PhD, and perhaps a future stint in academics.

The best part of his job, he feels, is the global exposure. "I'm travelling around the world free of cost, and even getting paid for it," he says. "For a person who used to prefer sitting in his room, this is a big thing. I'm creating new life events in a different place every year."

▶ "I would like to be consistently inconsistent with my output."

Sharan
Photographer and Film Maker

Sharan discovered a passion for film-making while while he was at Shiv Nadar University. He took pictures of everything and did promotional films for college festivals. He has directed and shot more than sixty video interviews of artists, innovators, students and educationalists for art festivals, corporations and educational institutions.

He has just premiered his first feature film, a political drama titled 'Mera Ram Kho Gaya,' which he categorizes as docufiction which is a cinematographic combination of documentary and fiction. It was the first feature film for everyone involved. He has also spent a year working with an NGO and living with different indigenous communities, documenting social issues

and capturing human interest stories. This has deepened his interest in Sociology.

He is very grateful for his grounding in multidisciplinary thinking. "You can explore without any, major expectation of output, but just out of curiosity for learning," he says. He does not consider his career choice to be a big leap. He had already started his journey on campus.

He plans to continue to evolve as an artist. "My work aims to look at the plurality in perspectives of daily life; relationships between people in a shared space and time, as well as with their built environment," he says. "I do not intend to be confined to one medium. I plan to be consistently inconsistent."

▶ "The training I received helped me to build a career in the data science domain."

Samarth
Manager, Model Risk, American Express.

An MS in Economics from Shiv Nadar University set Samarth on the path to a career in data science. Shortly after joining Kantar Millward Brown as part of the Marketing Mix Modelling group, he moved on to American Express, where he now helps manage Model Risk. "Our curriculum was heavy on quant, and gave us the ability to choose subjects from the third semester onwards. Studying statistics during the first semester and econometrics during the second helped me to realise my inclination towards the subject. I went on to publish my master's thesis in econometrics. The training I received helped me to build a career in the data science domain." He feels that the rigorous curriculum and access to cutting edg research have contributed to his success. He credits mentorship by the faculty for helping him to identify his passion and build a career in it. Other than this, his fondest memory of campus is his participation in the SNU Runs. "I was the undisputed champion," he says. "Out of the the three times I participated, I finished first twice and second once."

▶ "To get ready for the outside world, there's no better place."

Siddharth
Football Coach

Siddharth took a leap of faith by believing the passion in his heart. He was initially placed as a Service Information Engineer in Caterpillar, but his heart was in a different place. He used to sneak out of office to play football and coach kids. His greatest joy was in coaching the kids. He then completed Level 2 of a coaching course in Bangalore, and decided to take the plunge and go into football full time.

He loved the student diversity at Shiv Nadar University. "Once you come out of Shiv Nadar University, you can say you have friends from every state in India," he says, "And even different countries." As a member of the founding batch, he remembers feeling a strong sense of responsibility as they pioneered basic systems and activities. "You needed to think things through very carefully," he says. "You learn to take ownership of your own decisions."

He is currently in conversation with Chennai City FC, current I-League champions, and is looking forward to joining them next season.

▶ "I've been able to help my family shift to a bigger and much better place."

Muskein
Software Development Engineer, Flipkart

Muskein Singh interned at Flipkart during his last semester at Shiv Nadar University, and he has never looked back. He joined after graduation as a full time employee, and has been promoted twice, rising to the level of Software Development Engineer 3. "From an intern to SDE-3 - it's a milestone I'm really proud of," he says. "On the way, he has been able to take a loan and help shift his parents to a much better home, which is a matter of great pride for him. His most vivid memory of college is his first night on campus. It was the first night he had ever spent away from home. He remembers the whole batch gathering and singing together. He values the friendships he made on campus, and thinks of his time at SNU as the best 4 years of his life. "It's the people who made SNU what it is for me and I miss them the most," he says.

Alumni
across the world

ARCTIC OCEAN

ARCTIC OCEAN

ALASKA (USA)

GREENLAND (DENMARK)

ICELAND

CANADA

UNITED STATE OF AMERICA

ATLANTIC OCEAN

PACIFIC OCEAN

MEXICO

PACIFIC OCEAN

MARSHALL ISLANDS

BRAZIL

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ARGENTINA

RUSSIA

KAZAKHSTAN

MONGOLIA

CHINA

IRAN

INDIA

INDIAN OCEAN

SINGAPORE

INDONESIA

PACIFIC OCEAN

AUSTRALIA

NEW ZEALAND

Asia		1682
Europe		118
North America		262
Australia		24

Disclaimer : *The above-mentioned data is till the class of 2019*

Alumni
across India

75 Mumbai

64 Pune

784 Delhi

126 Chennai

222 Bengaluru

127 Hyderabad

Alumni Overview

Male	1437	UG	1699	SOE	1533
Female	651	PG	347	SNS	149
		PhD	42	SHSS	256
				SME	150

Faculty **Speaks**

Dr. Naveen Babu

There were lots of fun filled memories of the batch of 2015. With just 3 faculty from Engineering, there were instances, where a single faculty member had to teach multiple courses and all the batches! Even issues at hostels needed to be rectified by the teaching faculty. Weekly exams happened every Monday and invigilating them in 2015 was more of a fun experience than an exercise in maintaining strictness. A sight to watch was between 8:50 and 9:00 am, when everyone used to jog to their classes, especially if it was an IEE course. Organising Breeze with very limited funds was another challenge. Personally, I got the chance explore new areas. Alhough I taught electrical engineering and machine courses, currently I work in the field of electromagnetics.

Dr. Paromita Goswami

It was the first course I was taking at SNU. And for the first time I was teaching something as dense as consumer behaviour to non-business students who had not taken basic management courses. My scepticism was allayed when one girl came up to me and said her team would like to work on a project to see why girl students are not interested in taking up leadership positions in student government. This girl went on to do her higher studies in a reputed US university. Two other students in the course went on to convert their class project into a very successful HR Analytics start-up. When I look back now, these students set up my expectations as faculty, and also laid the foundations of the values of SNU. I am not only very proud of our alumni, I believe they will change the world that we know, and make it a more humane, just and equitable home for planet earth.

Dr. Rajeev Kumar Singh

Very few faculty members and students enjoy the privilege of starting their journey of a lifetime on the foundation day of the University. The batch of 2011 is and will always remain the most memorable batch forever because it is thanks to the foundation you built that this University took its first step towards becoming an Institution of Eminence. I have vivid memories of the founding batch, symbolised by the deep affection that I have for my students, and hopefully vice versa. Even today, 8 years later, the memories are fresh. I remember every moment as if it was yesterday.

Prof. N. Sukumar

SNU has grown a lot - in size, maturity and stature - while still adhering to our core mission, since the day you first walked through our portals. You have been a big part of this maturing process. Likewise, I hope that you will continue to grow and flourish in the years to come, while holding fast to your core values. We are proud to have been part of your lives. Whatever you choose to do, approach it with curiosity, sincerity and enthusiasm. Keep seeking, always question, and never shut yourself off from views that are divergent from yours.

Dr. Tulika Chandra

I have several fond memories of our 2011 founding batch, a batch that looked forward to meaningful platforms and ideas to improve. I recall the day when the student clubs were conceptualized and that too in the C Block corridor! And, I will cherish my memories of the first 'Breeze' which had you all working for hours together, deciding a name, going for sponsorships (and that too when SNU was not even a year old!), marketing, purchasing the instruments, etc. You were the ones who started the SNU magazine 'Discover' and you are the ones who have always moved forward confidently and with pride. Just remember graduating doesn't mean saying goodbye to the SNU community.

Loads of best wishes.

Dr. Nishant Mishra

It seems just like yesterday when I walked into your class in the first year to introduce myself as a teacher for Engineering Graphics. The memories are still fresh! And then there were these wonderful intro sessions! It was such a pleasure to meet so many of you in the recent Alumni meets - one at SNU, then the recent one in Chennai, and a few others. Watching you transform from your initial year as kids straight out of school - to mature, confident and seasoned professionals making a mark in your fields was a pure delight. I have shared lovely moments with all of you and even recapitulated those moments when a few of you came and met me in campus after you graduated in 2015.

Learn to enjoy the journey that you have embarked / about to embark upon, but be patient and persevere through the ups and downs that you might face. You also need to keep challenging yourself - challenging your extremities, coming out of your comfort zones, challenging your mental boundaries.

Steering Team

Mr. Shiv Nadar
Chancellor

Dr. Subhro Sen
Director, School of
Management &
Entrepreneurship

Dr. Suneet Tuli
Director, Research &
Graduate Studies and
Faculty Affairs

Dr. Amber Habib
Dean, Undergraduate Studies;
Director, IIIMIT

Mr. Shikhar Malhotra
Pro-Chancellor

Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh
Vice- Chancellor;
Director, School of
Natural Sciences

**Col. Gopal Karunakaran
(Retd.)**
President

Ms. Anubha Bali
Director, Career Development
Centre and Alumni Relations
Office

Dr. Partha Chatterjee
Dean, International
Partnerships

**Maj. Gen. G Jaishankar
(Retd.)**
Dean, Student Affairs

Let's Welcome!!!

Dr. Sandeep Sen
Director, School of
Engineering

Dr. Ajay Dandekar
Director, School of Humanities
& Social Sciences; Director,
Center for Public Affairs and
Critical Theory (C-PACT)

Dr Bibek Banerjee
Senior Dean & Head
Strategic Initiatives;
Director, School of
Management &
Entrepreneurship

Mr. Sudhir Naudiyal
Registrar

Mr. Anil Kumar Nair
Director, Admissions

Dr. Amrish Tony
Director, Sports

Breeze

Business Conclave

DOLA HALDER
BRAND HEAD, DORITOS

ARJUN BAHL
CO-FOUNDER, ST+ART INDIA FOUNDATION
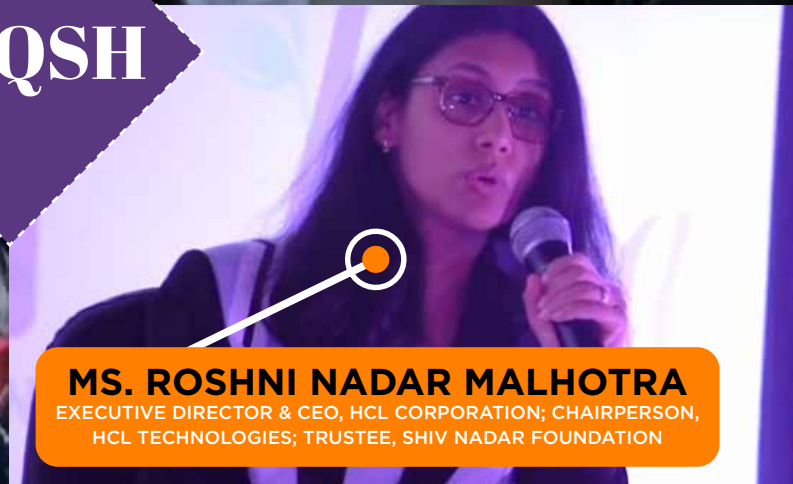
VINAY JOSHI
BRAND MANAGER, JACK DANIEL'S

NADEESH RAMACHANDRAN
HEAD OF PERFORMANCE SOLUTIONS, GOOGLE

Events@
SNU

MOQSH

TEDx

MS. ROSHNI NADAR MALHOTRA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO, HCL CORPORATION; CHAIRPERSON,
HCL TECHNOLOGIES; TRUSTEE, SHIV NADAR FOUNDATION

Economic Theory Workshop

Indo German Spring

SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

INDO-GERMAN SPRING SCHOOL ON

ALGORITHMS FOR BIG DATA

IIIT DELHI AND SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY
WEDNESDAY

Events@
SNU

HCL Hackathon

Sociology Conference

Alumni Meetups

▶ Alumni Reunion 2019

On 5 th & 6 th of April 2019, Shiv Nadar University hosted its first Alumni Reunion. This event brought together over 150 alumni, for a two-day trip down the memory lane.

The alumni enjoyed the karaoke sessions, the yoga sessions and the many sports activities. The highlight of the event was the chance to interact with the founding members of the university **Mrs Roshni Nadar Malhotra and Mr. Shikhar Malhotra.**

▶ Alumni Chapter Meets

For the first time, Shiv Nadar University organised a formal Alumni chapter meet, this journey started in USA – Bay Area where a bunch of alumni met Mr Shiv Nadar. The main purpose of these events was to create a network and to nurture the relationship with the alumni.

After its success we wanted to continue this beautiful relation and it became a regular affair. So far we have successfully manged to hold the chapter meets in India in cities such as Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad, where more than 40, 60 and 50 alumni attended from the class of 2015 – 2018. All the alumni were thrilled to meet up with faculty as well as CDC team for heart-warming conversations and nostalgic reminisces.

▶ Round Table Conferences

With an idea to collaborate and understand the rapidly changing workforce Shiv Nadar University has made many efforts for a structured exchange of ideas between academia and the industry. The university hosted three round table conference in the year 2019-20 with the alumni and faculty. The objective was to understand the changing views on technologies to help the university to excel in this dynamic work place. A lot of insights were shared on the importance of hackathons, Google summer code, and lab work which would facilitate a better understanding of theoretical concepts. For the successful implementation of the roundtable the faculty members play a vital role by being open minded and adapting to necessary changes for the student development. We would like to thank each faculty members from:

- **Computer Science Department: Dr. Saroj Kaushik,** Dr. Sonia Khetarpaul, Dr. Dolly Sharma, Dr. Sweta Mishra, and Dr. Jyoti Kirar.
- **Mechanical Engineering Department:** Dr. Ramesh Gupta, Dr. Divya Srivastava, Dr. Harender, Dr. Harpreet Grewal and Dr. Ganeshthangaraj Ponniah.
- **ECE and EEE Department: Dr. Dinkar Prasad,** Dr. Naveen Babu, Dr. Upendra Kumar Pandey, Dr. Jitendra Prajapati, Dr. Rohit Singh
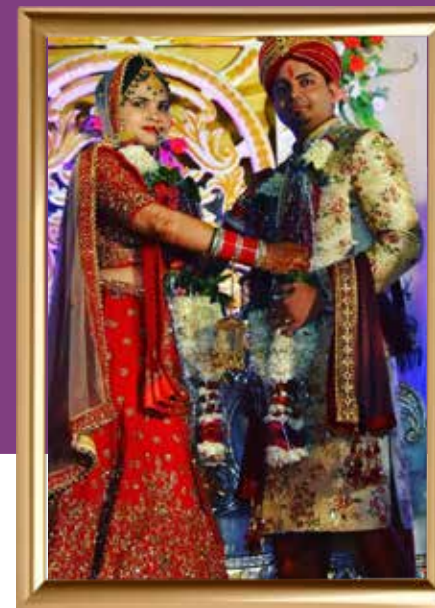
New Journeys, New Beginnings...

Let's cherish that!

Our family is growing! Here are some of our alumni who have tied the knot.

Baadal Singh Pundir
(B.Tech Civil, 2015) &
Sapna Pundir

Prerit Maheshwari (B.Tech ME, 2015) &
Nidhi Maheshwari

Rajalakshmi Annamalai (B.Tech ME, 2015) &
Muthu Lakshmanan

Abirami Rajasekar
(B.Tech ECE, 2015)
& Anand Kumar

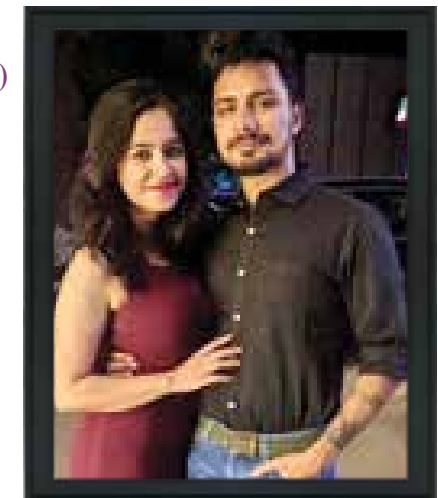
Prahalad Meyyappan
(B.Tech CSE,2015) &
Lakshmi Palaniappan

Vavya Chopra
(B.Tech EEE, 2015)
& Tushar Agrawal

Aishwarya Ragavan (B.Tech CSE,
2015) & Shyam Ramakrishnan

Vijaya Kashyap (M.Tech ECE,2014)
& Umesh Kashyap

Bharti Nandwani (PhD Eco, 2018)
& Varun Varma (B.Tech ME, 2015)

Sharanya Pathikonda
(B.Tech Civil, 2015) &
Sravanth Mouli

Kavita Joshi
(B.Tech CSE, 2015) &
Vibhansh Pant

Aishwarya Lakshmi
(B.Tech CSE, 2015) &
Srinivas PV

Kamalanchali Asokan
(B.Tech EEE, 2015) &
Dighvijay Pandian

Arun Pandianathan
(B.Tech ME, 2015) &
Vishnu Bharthi

Ishita Aggarwal
(B.Tech CSE, 2015) &
Hardik Singh Sood

Rupakshi Bhatia
(BSc Mathematics,2015) & Aviral
Srivastava

Thank You !!

Stay Connected!

when you take part in the University's growth in any way. We value your giving back to the University tremendously and we wish many more of you come back every month and every year. It is also a special treat when we meet you at your work places. It's most gratifying to see you grow and achieve in your chosen field.
Thank you for coming back !

Over the last few years we have had great association with each one of you, we could not be more proud of all that you have achieved in the last few years. Alumni play a significant role in shaping the University and helping the younger batches emulate their success in many ways, by being mentors, by giving their time and expertise, by participating and just by being there. We want to Thank All of you who have especially come back to Campus or participated in any of the events inside or outside the Campus or even the virtual world of social media. It is always special

#Throwback

"**A founder** can carry an institution only so far, and then others have to step in, even the alumni, that's how an institution **becomes one.**"

Get in Touch

- ⦿ **Instagram : @alumnirelations_snu**
- ⓕ **Facebook : Alumni Relations Office, SNU**
  Alma Connect : snu.almaconnect.com
- ✉ **Email ID : alumnirelations@snu.edu.in**

SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

AN INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE